

12                said inner and outer [sides] edges being uniformly spaced apart defining  
13        therebetween a chip-support zone for the frame having defined dimensions.

14  
15                said [zone being] outer edges of the sidebars being recessed from the outer edges of  
16        the chip such that the frame is smaller a corresponding dimension of the chip, so as to avoid  
17        formation of a fillet of chip attach material proximate to the outer edges of the chip when the chip is  
18        attached to the frame, [each sidebar having an upper chip-supporting surface for engaging the bottom  
19        surface of the chip].

20  
21                Cancel claim 9 without prejudice.

22  
23                16. (New) A lead frame, for an integrated circuit chip having a frame engaging  
24        bottom surface for attachment to the frame by means of a chip attach material, said chip being  
25        formed with outer edges having defined dimensions, said frame comprising:

26  
27                a unitary apertured frame having a chip-supporting surface for engaging the bottom  
28        of the surface of the chip with the chip attach material therebetween, said frame having an outer  
29        edge, and an aperture formed with an inner edge defining the through central aperture,

30  
31                said inner and outer edges being uniformly spaced apart defining therebetween a  
32        chip-support zone having defined dimensions,

33  
34                said outer edge of the apertured frame being recessed from the outer edges of the  
35        chip such that the frame is smaller than a corresponding dimension of the chip, so as to avoid  
36        formation of a fillet of chip attach material to the outer edges of the chip when the chip is attached to  
37        the apertured frame.

38  
39  
40  
41  
42